

Message Text

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22

ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 /029 W

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P 050700Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5198

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 0375

FOR S/PRS FUNSETH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, HU

SUBJ: REQUEST BY HUNGARIAN TELEVISION FOR BRIEF STATEMENT
BY SECRETARY KISSINGER

1. SENIOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDITOR OF HUNGARIAN TELEVISION
DENES POLGAR HAS ASKED EMBASSY PAO TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING
REQUEST TO SECRETARY KISSINGER:
2. HUNGARIAN TELEVISION WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT BRIEF, 3-5
MINUTES, STATEMENT BY SECRETARY BASED ON PREVIOUSLY AGREED
TO Q AND A ON SUBJECTS OF DETENTE, SALT AND ANGOLA, PRIOR
TO OPENING OF CPSU PARTY CONGRESS.
3. POLGAR PREPARED TO FLY TO WASHINGTON AT ANY TIME CONVENIENT
FOR SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE TO FILM STATEMENT.
4. POLGAR ASSURED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FILMED STATEMENT
WOULD BE SHOWN IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER IN ALL EUROPEAN
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES INCLUDING SOVIET UNION VIA INTER-
VISION, EAST EUROPEAN NETWORK VEHICLE FOR PROGRAM-SHARING.
5. POLGAR ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SECRETARY'S POSITION ON
THESE QUESTIONS IS OF COURSE WELL KNOWN AND A MATTER OF
PUBLIC RECORD, BUT ASSERTED THAT PERSONALIZED EXCHANGE
WITH TV INTERVIEWER FROM "SOCIALIST COUNTRY" WOULD HAVE
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SPECIAL AND SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, INCLUDING ON LEADERSHIP

PREPARING FOR CPSU CONGRESS.

6. FYI: POLGAR ALSO TOLD PAO THAT, DURING HIS LAST WASHINGTON VISIT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, DAVID BINDER ACTING ON HIS BEHALF MADE "PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS" FOR SHORT FILMED INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER; BUT THAT SCHEDULING PROBLEMS CAUSED PLAN TO FALL THROUGH.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY BUDAPEST IS SIMPLY CONVEYING POLGAR'S REQUEST. MINDFUL OF SECRETARY'S HEAVY SCHEDULE AND VERY MUCH AWARE THAT ANY DECISION WILL BE BASED ON POLICY CONSIDERATIONS BEYOND OUR KEN, WE SHALL LIMIT OURSELVES TO STATEMENT OF OBVIOUS: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S APPEARANCE ON HUNGARIAN TV WOULD HAVE GREAT PUBLIC IMPACT IN THIS SMALL COUNTRY. POLGAR HAS BEEN TRUTHFUL IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THIS EMBASSY; BUT WHETHER HE CAN DELIVER ON HIS PROMISED INTERVISION TELECAST TO USSR AND OTHER EE COUNTRIES WE JUST DO NOT KNOW.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: A) FOR MOSCOW: EMBASSY MAY WISH TO COMMENT; B) FOR DEPARTMENT: PLEASE INSTRUCT.
MCAULIFFE

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